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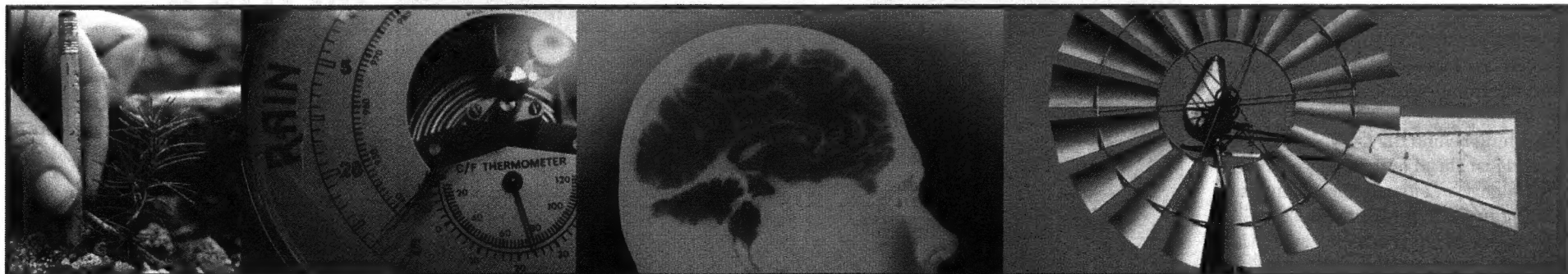
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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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Nursing study to evaluate midwife services

Research team has been flooded with calls from expectant mothers

By Phoebe Dey

When word first spread about Dr. Beverley O'Brien's midwife project, her answering machine received so many calls from interested women the voice messaging system couldn't handle them. And that was before the project even started.

O'Brien, a professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta and a midwife, is the principal investigator of a study that will evaluate how midwifery services fit into the health-care system.

"We've had more than 1,000 calls while waiting to start this study—we had to bump up our answering machine to accept more messages."

— O'Brien

"We want to see what happens to women who make that initial decision to choose a midwife," said O'Brien. "And we're also looking at the costs to the clients and the costs to the system, because when you look at hospital vs. home birth, there are financial consequences."

The study officially started Jan. 1, 2001, but O'Brien and her research team have been prepared for almost two years, waiting for provincial changes which would allow hospital privileges for midwives. Once that law passed, each regional health authority still had to agree to allow midwives access.

The Westview Regional Health Authority was the first to open its doors to midwives, followed by the Calgary Health Authority. Capital Health, which serves Edmonton and area, has allowed midwives hospital privileges for the project only.

Investigators will not only track women throughout their pregnancies but will also interview health care professionals who come into contact with the expectant mothers.



Dr. Beverley O'Brien

O'Brien said research has shown midwives tend to use fewer interventions than doctors, so investigators will be tracking that aspect of the process as well.

Besides being admitted to the hospital, treated and discharged by their midwives, patients will also receive four weeks of postnatal care. "We're also hoping that through focus groups and surveys of participants we will identify barriers to this process, as well as potential solutions," said O'Brien, adding the approximate \$2,000 it costs to have a midwife-

"There is already plenty of evidence internationally that midwifery practice is safe, so we're looking more at the feasibility of it in the health-care system."

— O'Brien

assisted birth will be paid by the project. "There is already plenty of evidence internationally that midwifery practice is safe, so we're looking more at the feasibility of it in the health-care system."

Women in the project (participants must be 20 weeks or less into their pregnancy and have found a midwife on their own) will have their choice of having the baby in a hospital, at home or in a birthing centre. O'Brien doesn't think there will be a shortage of people signing up.

"We've had more than 1,000 calls while waiting to start this study—we had to bump up our answering machine to accept more messages," she said, adding the research team is hoping to respond to each person. "We had people who phoned us almost two years ago

MIDWIFERY IN ALBERTA

- Currently, midwives in Alberta are registered and certified but not funded by the provincial health-care system.
- There are presently about 200 midwife attended home births in Alberta per year.
- Westview RHA has granted free midwife privileges to any woman as long as they give birth in Stony Plain.
- Although the price varies by region and practice, the average cost of midwifery services is \$2,000.
- Ontario and British Columbia have midwives fully government-funded and integrated into the health-care system, practicing in all settings.
- Midwives often pay as much as \$4,000 per year for insurance.
- One hundred and fifty spots are slotted for O'Brien's project evaluating the integration of midwifery services.
- Capital Health has granted admitting privileges to the Royal Alexandra and the Misericordia for the length of the project. However these privileges will only be granted to those client/midwife pairs involved in the project.

»» quick »» facts

when they were pregnant. They've now had the baby, are pregnant with another child and want to be in the project."

Women who want to join the project should call 1-877-643-7765 for more information. They must live in one of the following four regions: Capital Health Region, Westview Regional Health Authority, David Thompson Health Region or Calgary Regional Health Authority.

The \$400,000 project, which is funded by Alberta Health and Wellness, should be completed in two years. ■

Law school vaults up in national survey

By Ryan Smith

The University of Alberta finished near the head of the class in The Canadian Lawyer magazine's 2001 report card on Canadian law schools. The U of A finished second, up from eighth last year, out of 15 schools ranked.

Finishing behind the University of Victoria, and just ahead of third-place University of Calgary and fourth-place University of New Brunswick, the U of A did especially well for "a larger school," noted U of A Dean of Law Lewis Klar. "The U of A is the sixth largest law school in the country, and for us to finish this high is tremendous, because larger schools usually do less well in this survey than smaller schools."

The annual survey is based on responses of recent graduates ranking their alma maters on criteria ranging from the caring and competency of professors to the relevance of their education to practicing law.

"These results are really a sort of 'thank-you' from our recent grads," Klar said. "We're a bigger school, but we've made a conscious effort to create a community and a more collegial environment here. This tells us our own grads are feeling good about our law school, and that's a great feeling."



Third-year law student Katie Clayton, Dean Lewis Klar and second-year law student Michelle Beland: not surprised to learn of law school's rise in reputation.

"I'm not surprised," said second-year law student Michelle Belland of the U of A's strong showing in the rankings. "Even though we have a larger student body there's still a strong sense of community here and the social activities are amazing—there's really something to hit everyone's interests, from older students with families to the younger students who like

to go out a lot." Belland noted she thought the stanine/bell-curve grading system used at the U of A could be improved, but overall "the professors are accessible, second and third-year students really help out the first-year students, and there are a lot of services for students here that really make it a great place to study law." ■

16 Canada Research Chairs for U of A

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Christmas came early for 16 University of Alberta researchers when they were selected among the university's first Canada Research Chair holders.

The Liberal budget earlier this year allocated \$900 million to help Canadian universities attract and retain the best researchers and support their endeavours in health, natural sciences, technology, social sciences and humanities.

"Obviously, we have a lot of good people here, so it's no surprise their expertise has been appropriately recognized, ranging from the social sciences, arts and hard and applied sciences," says Dr. Roger Smith, vice-president (research). "We have a good strong mix and we're confident the next group will be equally strong."

On Dec. 15, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced the first 195 chair holders in Canadian universities. University of Toronto was No. 1 with 40 chairs while the University of Calgary received funding for nine.

Two thousand research chairs will be established by 2004-05. This year's 195 recipients include 15 researchers from outside Canada, seven of whom are returning here.

In other good news, the U of A's total chair allocation was increased to 126, up from 118. Smith says the new allocation resulted from the crunching of better data for the university.

"This round was focused on retention," adds Smith. "We wanted to ensure the good work by our scholars currently here was recognized. The next round will target the recruitment of new people."

The university submitted its next request for about 20 research chairs last month. Results should be known by March 2001.

Chairs are allocated to universities in direct proportion to their levels of previous funding from the three federal research granting agencies: the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Two types of chairs are available: seven-year renewable chairs for experienced researchers who are acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their field; and one-time renewable five-year chairs for scholars acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their fields.

Here's a list of University of Alberta Canada Research Chair holders:

TIER 1

- Wiktor Adamowicz – Economics
- Norman Beaulieu – Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- George Foxcroft – Animal Biology
- Philip Halloran – Life Sciences related to Human Health and Disease
- Jack Jhamandas – Central Nervous System – Organic
- Gary Kelly – Literature
- Richard Rachubinski – Cell Biology
- Derek Sayer – Sociology
- Brian Sykes – Biochemistry
- Nicole Tomczak-Jaegermann – Geographical Information

TIER 2

- Gwen Allison – Microbiology
- Sean Caulfield – Visual Arts
- David Citrin – Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- AW Brent Davis – Education
- Janet Elliott – Chemical Engineering
- X. Chris Le – Analytical Chemistry

O'Brien appoints new facilities manager

By Andrew Leitch

Al O'Brien, acting vice-president, finance and administration, has appointed a new chief facilities officer. The appointment is part of an extensive restructuring of the portfolio, announced last December, following an advisory committee review.



Jim Mitchell

Jim Mitchell, a 14-year employee with Edmonton's Stantec, joins the University of Alberta Jan. 15 as chief facilities officer and associate vice-president. Mitchell, who has been managing projects with Stantec since late 1999 as part of the company's management contract with the university, will oversee capital programs, capital and strategic planning services, facilities management, housing and food services, real estate and parking services, and utilities.

"He's a natural fit for this key position," said O'Brien. "He knows the campus, he knows the issues, he knows the people, and his track record in construction and project management speaks for itself. Jim will be able to hit the ground running."

Early reaction across campus has been positive. Mike Percy, dean of business, worked with Mitchell during the construction of the Business Building's \$2.5 million Stollery Centre. "This is good news," he said. "Jim has a great working relationship with people on campus; he has impeccable credentials. He understands the vision of the university and he's someone who can handle the details."

David Lynch, dean of engineering, echoes Percy's comments. "This is an excellent appointment," he said. "I think we're going to see some innovative development."

As Lynch points out, there is pressure across campus for more space and new facilities, combined with the fact many of the buildings constructed 30 years ago need renovation, all happening at a time when "controlling costs is crucial."

O'Brien announced plans for an executive re-configuration in a letter to each member of the finance and administration portfolio on Dec. 20 of last year. "I accepted this position for a period of 18 months, so it's important to act swiftly," O'Brien said this week. "We are determined to improve the quality of our service to the campus community." ■

Government grant to ease tuition increase

But student leaders say battle for lower fees is far from over

By Ryan Smith

University of Alberta officials have reduced the proposed tuition fee increase to 3.7 per cent from 5.7 per cent after the provincial government stepped forward with a one-time grant for post-secondary education. The tuition proposal goes to the Board of Governors for final approval Jan. 12.

The government announced a \$25 million grant for post-secondary institutions in the province Jan. 11, but did not say how much would be allotted to the U of A. However members of the U of A's Academic Planning Committee confirmed U of A administrators have reduced the proposed tuition increase as a result of the funding increase.

Dr. Art Quinney, U of A associate vice-president (academic), said when the expected grant comes through, the U of A's priorities are to use the money to reduce tuition and

address the issue of staff retention. U of A student officials were happy to hear the announcement, but were also concerned the grant wasn't enough. "We don't want to sound like whiners," said Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Chris Samuel. "Without a doubt this [grant] is a step in the right direction—the provincial government has realized tuition is a problem—but by no means is the tuition war over." Samuel voiced concern the expected funding is only a one-time, election-year grant. "We don't think the government or the university have a long-term plan to address the tuition issue, and we're disappointed about that," he said. ■ Check ExpressNews (www.ualberta.ca/) Jan. 12 for the Board of Governor's decision on the tuition increase.

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Folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the University community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate. Folio is published 21 times per year. The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in Folio do not necessarily reflect University policy. Folio contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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Thinking green

The search for new paradigms in the move towards sustainable development on campus

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

For Dr. Sandra Niessen, the most memorable moment in the development of the university's Human Ecology Theme House was standing on the second storey balcony watching more than 50 people build solar panels.

"That's what the theme house (located on Saskatchewan Dr.) is all about," says the professor of human ecology of the ongoing project in sustainable development undertaken by her students and Housing and Food Services. "You had all these people, students, the media, our collaborators from the University of Calgary working side by side. It was the sweat equity of a whole community and the connections that implies."

But more than just a warm personal remembrance of a powerful interpersonal moment, this coming together of stakeholders is also at the heart of Niessen's vision of sustainable development both on campus and across society, and perhaps the beginning of a larger blueprint for action.

For example, while it's tempting to look at the groundbreaking theme house's gadgets and technical innovations, Niessen sees the house as a lesson in process over product, as reflecting a change of mindset to greener thoughts as society struggles to become more environmentally friendly.

"Sustainability is more than just fuel cells, low-efficiency light bulbs and how we produce our power," she notes. "It means a change of thought. Even if we had the most sustainable buildings possible on campus, it still wouldn't mean we had a green university."

According to Niessen, while it may be tempting to see campus sustainability as the sole concern for facilities management, in reality it's a much broader issue that should have the participation of the whole of the university community—action the U of A needs to undertake or risk falling behind other Canadian universities.

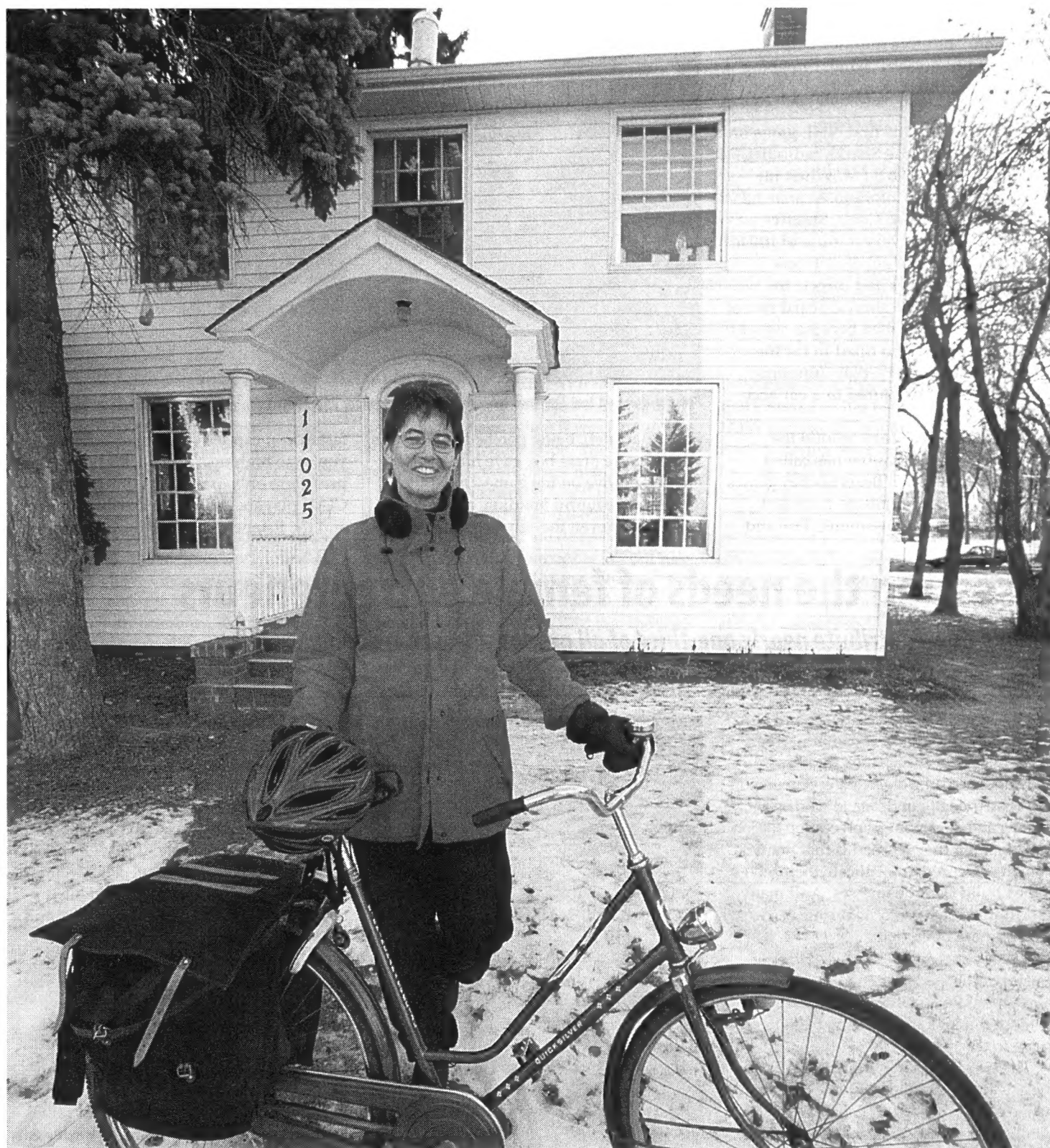
"The crux of the greening campus movement is all about knowledge and our role as knowledge producers," she explains, noting a university plays a complicated role as both a collective of intellects and also as a social institution. "The greening of campus needs to have the whole campus involved and a whole new paradigm that brings us closer to walking our talk."

"On the one hand we're producing knowledge, yet as a social institution we're not always as progressive as the ideas we produce—a disconnection we share with all of society. We should always be questioning what we can do as a global citizen, but global environmental problems more directly affect the world's southern people—we're more cushioned in North America and people here don't always experience any implications of their actions."

The theme house is a perfect case-study in innovative partnerships. Niessen says the project was conceived when the director of Housing and Food Services gave a guest lecture in her material culture class to illustrate the practical implications on how "the manipulation of stuff can encourage or discourage well-being."

"The talk was about how Housing and Food Service's physical plant can help or detract students' well-being, and it came out in conversation that they had a building on campus, a single-family student resident that would be available for my students to play with to give them a practical dimension to their studies."

The project, launched in late 1998 with an official launch in April '99, also incor-



Dr. Sandra Niessen at the Human Ecology Theme House on Saskatchewan Drive—a lesson in process over product, reflecting a change of mindset to greener thoughts.

porated the U of A's facilities management and succeeded wildly—despite some challenges including the purchase of wind-generated electricity that fell afoul of the university's agreements with external energy providers—in illustrating a practical exploration in process development: "The house became this centre of how ideas and people can be transformed and how to open up new kinds of dialogue."

"In the end, that's how a green community is born—we're renovating a community, not just a house."

Leslie Church, president of the Students' Union says the university's student body would be "very interested in seeing the process of sustainability opening up." She sees the present as an excellent time to consider these issues, given the boom of construction on campus and the development of the south campus.

Church says students understand the importance of environmental issues to a healthy, vital campus and sees room for improvement in all areas, including everything from a greater reliance on computer communication rather than paper ("paper stocks are still increasing on campus despite e-mail") and encouraging students

and businesses alike to use environmentally-friendly packaging.

"Something as simple as making it easy for students to bring Tupperware and mugs from home rather than use disposable plates and containers."

For the university's administration, academic freedom in regards to sustainability are top priorities, says Wayne Renke, special advisor to the vice-president (academic).

"We have to make sure academic freedom is not limited by the university's relationship with outside providers, and we will develop in the short-term a standard academic freedom clause for all external providers," he explains.

"It's really not complicated, and we should be able to get endorsement from all the stakeholders. The second thing we want to ensure is that there are processes in place when members of our staff are subject to complaints due to their research, especially from external service providers. We need a set of procedures in place so we can respond quickly and fairly, and which makes sure our external commercial links don't subvert our research mandate."

As for the long-term, Renke sees the university taking further steps in develop-

ing a sustainable development plan that will involve "all the academic stakeholders, physical plant, students and graduate students" but that this work "can't be taken quickly and lightly."

Acting Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Al Obrien says his office is committed to considering sustainable development in its campus facilities plan.

Also thinking long-term, Niessen would like to see a central environmental "champion," a "respected, centrally-located individual—a visionary who would have a vision and be able to motivate people"—perhaps serving as a special advisor to the president.

"Going even one step better would be to have a provincial champion—there's lots of interesting work being done across the province, and it's a good opportunity to connect with others and work collectively on a variety of strategies," she concludes, noting numerous international declarations have been passed over the past two decades calling for similar action.

"Someone has got to take leadership on this issue and start addressing the issues of the world today. We're ideally positioned, and we can still become a leader." ■

U of A broadcaster hits the big time on American radio

Voice of the Golden Bears tests his pipes calling the action in the NHL

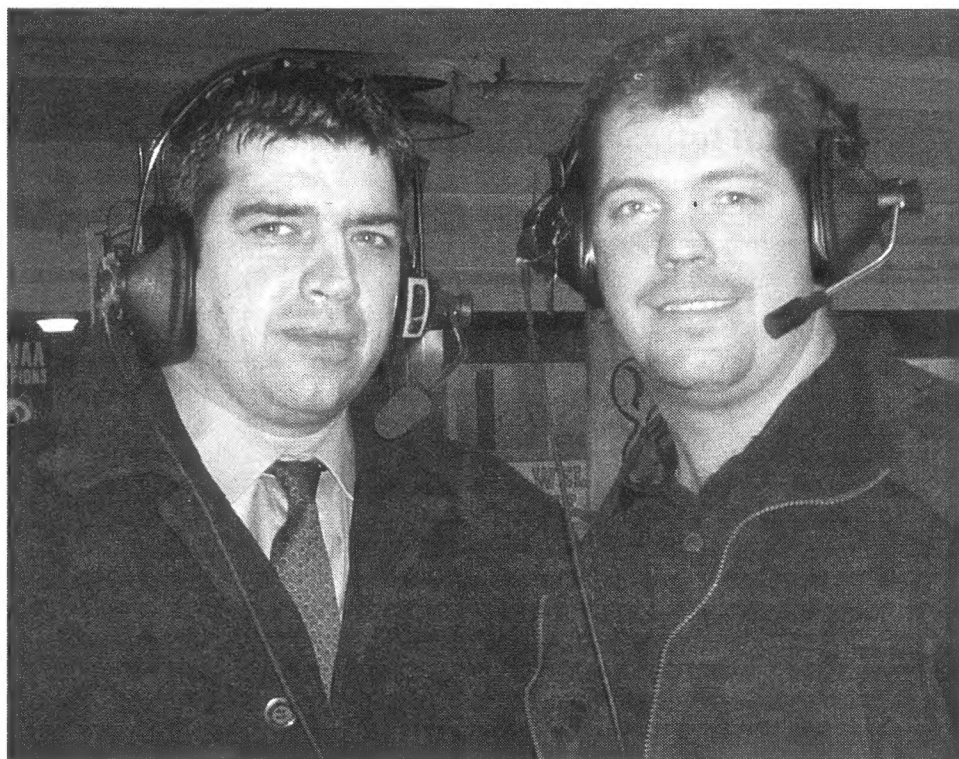
By Phoebe Dey

Many young hockey fans have done it: sat glued to a television, pretending to be the play-by-play announcer for an NHL game. For the University of Alberta's Bob Stauffer, that dream recently became a reality.

"I really wasn't that intimidated," said Stauffer, communications officer and broadcast director for Athletics and Recreation. "But five minutes before the game I said to myself, 'Wow, I'm going to be doing an NHL game. That's pretty cool.'"

Stauffer called his first NHL game on Jan. 4 for the San Jose Sharks radio flagship station KFOX 98.5 FM. When the Sharks battled the Colorado Avalanche to a 2-2 tie in Denver, Colo., Stauffer was there to announce every minute of it. He landed the one-time gig once Frank Albin, who produces and directs the Sharks TV and radio shows, heard two of Stauffer's tapes. He then became one of five broadcasters who filled in for the Sharks regular play-by-play announcer, who was seriously injured in a car accident in November.

Although he has been around the airwaves for years (Stauffer has called more than 200 Golden Bears hockey games since 1989 on FM88-CJSR, and worked with Molstar Communications, TSN and



Bob Stauffer and Troy Hgertaas broadcasting from the Clare Drake arena.

CTV Sportsnet), being perched in Denver's Pepsi Centre press box gave him a different perspective on the game.

"It's a beautiful building, a gorgeous facility, and even though the game is

faster, you can see everything because you're so high up," he said, adding the pros were only marginally quicker than CIAU players. "When you're doing radio and the listeners can't see the action, you

have to be able to paint the picture, so being up there worked well."

As well as calling names like Patrick Roy and Ray Bourque ("I was a little bit nervous thinking about the players on the ice, but in terms of play-by-play, it's like any other game"), Stauffer had to be a quick study on San Jose.

"It's not about learning the names and numbers of the players—5,000 guys on campus would know that, that's the type of fans we are—but it's more like knowing streaks: who is hot, who is not. It was hard to come in from Edmonton and know San Jose, so I was a lot more neutral than if I was calling a Golden Bears game, but I think everybody was still pretty happy with my work."

Besides describing plays, Stauffer also read ads and announcements that were slightly different from what he's used to at CJSR. "One thing I had to say was 'exchange your gun for food,' which is a great message, but it's something we don't usually advertise up here."

Although Stauffer enjoys being the voice of the Golden Bears, he said if he's drafted by the NHL or one of its farm teams, he'll jump at the chance. "If that opportunity presents itself, I would have to go. Every guy who does this dreams of one day being in the big league." ■

Assessing the needs of female entrepreneurs

Women now contribute nearly one-third of all new businesses in Canada

By Claire Eamer

In 1998, when Dr. Tara Fenwick and her University of Calgary research partner, Dr. Susan Hutton, began their three-year study of Canadian women entrepreneurs, they were trying to understand women's learning and development process on the job.

One thing they learned is that many women entrepreneurs educate themselves as they build their businesses. And many start from scratch, with no business-related training of any kind.

"They're amazing," says Fenwick, an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Policy Studies. "If they're doing so much on their own, what are we trying to teach them?"

The question is important because so many women are setting up their own businesses. Women now contribute nearly one-third of all new businesses in Canada, and the number of new business start-ups by women entrepreneurs is growing at twice the rate of men entrepreneurs.

Recent studies from the United States and Canada indicate that the trend is likely to continue, says Fenwick. In a survey of women working in large organizations in the United States, 25 per cent said they were leaving their jobs or planning to



Dr. Tara Fenwick

leave. In Canada, the figure was even higher, at 37 per cent.

One thing Fenwick and Hutton learned is that there are no simple answers to why women leave organizations. Some blame the so-called glass ceiling that limits their

careers. Others are looking for more creative challenge in their work, greater control over their lives, the chance to contribute to their communities, or work they enjoy. Still others have ethical disagreements with the organizations' practices.

Over the past couple of years, Fenwick and Hutton have interviewed 112 women running small and medium-sized businesses. The group includes both rural and urban women and covers a geographical range from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island. All had been in business for at least four years.

The researchers are impressed by the variety of experience and approaches to business development the interviews uncovered. Their study breaks new ground in analysing relationships between values, learning and new approaches to business being developed among women entrepreneurs, says Fenwick.

Most previous studies of women entrepreneurs have been broad-based surveys that look for common threads or compare women to men. Both approaches result in broad categorization that misleadingly masks individual variations, she says.

"We didn't realize just how unique our

study was until we started taking it around to conferences. It's really dawned on me that this is important stuff."

The two researchers have produced several papers and presentations based on the material they have analyzed so far. Fenwick says they hope that the information they are uncovering will influence policy and programs related to women in business.

They are also taking another look at what kinds of support women entrepreneurs need. Fenwick says they don't need courses that teach them traditional approaches to business, like developing a business plan or setting goals. In fact, many are creating new models of business—flexible approaches that suit them and work for them. Maybe what such women need, more than educational programs, is better daycare, opportunities to join international trade missions, or other forms of practical assistance, Fenwick suggests.

Hutton is interested in how the organizations can change so that women are less inclined to leave. Fenwick is curious about different meanings of success among women entrepreneurs and the new entrepreneurial models some women are creating. ■

Quinney wins major award for contributions to exercise physiology

By Ryan Smith

Perhaps best known across North America as the man smiling in the picture beside Wayne Gretzky while a bold University of Alberta graduate sits on Gretzky's lap, Dr. Art Quinney is actually known in his field for much more substantive reasons. As proof of this, Quinney recently received the rarely given Canadian Society for Exercise and Physiology (CSEP) honorary award for his more than 30 years of research excellence.

"[Dr. Quinney] has proven he is an outstanding leader in the field of exercise science in Canada," said Dr. Michael Sharratt, dean of the Faculty of Applied Health Science at the University of Waterloo, and past-president of CSEP.

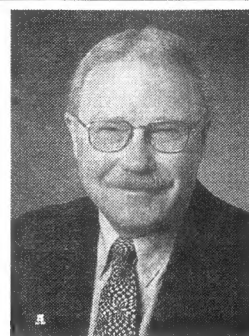
"He has the unique capacity to be able to communicate with researchers in labs as well as practitioners in the field, and that makes him one of the most complete exercise scientists in the world," Sharratt added.

Sharratt was on the committee that decided to honour Quinney with the CSEP award, which is proffered annually—but only when there is a deserving candidate—to recognize outstanding contributions to exercise physiology in Canada.

"It's a humbling thing," said Quinney of receiving the award. "I've been involved with exercise physiology throughout my professional life, and this award is a career award, so to be recognized by my peers is truly an honour."

The award capped an eventful year for Quinney. In 2000 he traded in duties as the U of A's dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation to become an associate vice-president (academic). As well as continuing his exercise physiology research, Quinney is now immersed in the development of the U of A's academic budget.

Among other administrative duties, he is also heading the Canada Research Chairs program at the U of A, which, in terms of chairs granted in the past five years, is among the top three such programs in the country. However, with all he's accomplished recently, he acknowledged his appearance in the Gretzky photo brought him his widest acclaim.



Dr. Art Quinney

"With all the research achievements and amazing things happening at the U of A, it doesn't seem right that that photo probably got U of A in more newspapers across North America than anything else happening here," mused Quinney of the picture taken by a Canadian Press photographer at the June convocation ceremony at which hockey great Gretzky received an honorary degree. ■

The closure of Chornobyl: the end of an era?

By Dr. David R. Marples

On Dec. 15, the Ukrainian authorities closed the Chornobyl nuclear power station permanently, as part of their agreement with the G-7 countries and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development. The latter have agreed to finance the harnessing of two new reactors in western Ukraine: Rivne-4 and Khmelnytsky-2. The capacity of the two new reactors will maintain Ukraine's portion of nuclear-generated electricity at 46 per cent of the total output.

The Chornobyl station was conceived 30 years ago by the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification and the first reactor unit came on line in 1977. The reactors were graphite-moderated RBMKs constructed only in the USSR and they were built in twins. In April 1986 at the time of the disaster, Chornobyl had four reactors in service, with units five and six under construction. Similar stations were operating near Leningrad, at Kursk, and at Ignalina in Lithuania.

The accident of April 26, which arose from a test on safety equipment, blew the roof off unit four and spewed radioactive products into the atmosphere for the next two weeks. The Soviet authorities maintained initial silence about the event and

did not reveal the extent of radioactive fallout for three years. Today, it is estimated, nearly six million residents of Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia live on contaminated land. The most discernible health consequence to date has been thyroid gland cancer among children, caused by radioactive Iodine released in the first week after the explosion. About 3,000 children suffer from the disease, which was negligible prior to the accident. In Ukraine, Deputy Health Minister Ol'ha Bobyleva reported last year that four children had died from the disease, the peak of which is expected in 2001-2005.

The main victims of the disaster were initially firemen and first-aid workers, and more recently, members of the teams of decontamination works (termed "liquidators" in the former Soviet Union). Of the 350,000 liquidators who came from Ukraine, over 12,500 have died, most of them in the 35-50 age group at the time of death. Similar figures are found in Belarus, which was most affected by high-level fallout in about 20 per cent of the republic. In both republics, the health statistics make grim reading with dramatic rises in all types of morbidity since the accident (though the incidence of

Leukemia remains within the European norm and the illnesses are not necessarily related to Chornobyl).

In 1994, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) belatedly declared the Chornobyl plant inherently unsafe and recommended its closure. In December 1995 at a meeting of the G-7 countries and Russia in Ottawa, Ukraine agreed to close the plant by the year 2000 after being offered approximately \$2.3 billion US in compensation. Thereafter the issue was clouded by bad faith on both sides. Ukraine shut down Unit Two after a fire in 1991, and then closed down Unit One on schedule in 1997. Unit Three, which shares a building with the destroyed fourth unit, remained in operation until late last year, when it was shut down after a serious malfunction. The plant may be closed by default rather than design.

As for the destroyed reactor, workers and robots covered it with a concrete tomb over the summer and fall of 1986. This was initially termed the "Sarcophagus" but has more recently been called the "Shelter." The former director of the Chornobyl plant, Serhy Parashyn, noted in 1998 that the Shelter was collapsing, and an international consortium received the task of designing a new cover at a cost of \$750 million US to be

completed by 2006. Nuclear fuel remains under the central room of the fourth unit, and experts have not dismissed the possibility of a chain reaction in these remains. Twenty-nine unsafe zones have been exposed, five of which are highly dangerous. In a recently published book, Ukrainian

scientists maintain that a release of dust could contaminate an area of about 26 square miles around the reactor.

The closure of Chornobyl is not good news for the plant workers. About a quarter of the 30,000 residents of Slavutych, the town built for plant workers 65 kms to the Northeast to replace the former city of Pripyat, face

unemployment. Plant workers complain that Chornobyl has been singled out by the IAEA because of its international reputation, declaring there are more dangerous reactors still in operation elsewhere. The plant closure is an economic misfortune, but the disaster itself marks a devastating physical and psychological tragedy, the effects of which appear to worsen rather than ease over time. ■

David Marples, a professor of history at the University of Alberta, is author of three books on Chornobyl. He has visited both the nuclear plant and the contaminated regions on several occasions.

In a recently published book, Ukrainian scientists maintain that a release of dust could contaminate an area of about 26 square miles around the reactor.

Orlando Project garners international acclaim

Co-investigators to deliver high-profile lecture at Oxford University

By Phoebe Dey

The University of Alberta research team that created the Orlando Project—the first full scholarly history of women's writing in the British Isles—is being honoured internationally for the impact its work has made.

Drs. Isobel Grundy and Pat Clements, who with Susan Brown of the University of Guelph are the originators of the project, will deliver Oxford University's annual D.F. McKenzie Lecture in Britain this spring. In his invitation, Michael Suarez of the McKenzie Trust said the English professors' presence would be a great "boost not only to the bibliography/book history/sociology of texts but also to our burgeoning women's studies program."

"We believe the Orlando Project represents one of the most exciting developments in the production of knowledge and the dissemination of texts," said Suarez, "not only because of its feminist agenda, but also because of its theoretical sophistication, technological accomplishment and intellectual rigor."

The complete version of the Orlando Project will appear both as four individually authored volumes of history and as an extensive, collaboratively authored electronic text base. The account addresses issues raised by recent feminist thinkers and scholars of women's writing and it draws on new research on women's lives, their texts and the conditions under which they wrote.

The research team has also developed a new SGML (Standard Generalised

Markup Language) application, which allows literary scholars to search the database according to chronology, biography, writing or events.

"The students emerge with special education not only in literary research but also with the use of new technologies to do the work of texts."

—Dr. Patricia Clements

includes a co-investigator, Dr. Susan Brown at Guelph University, Dr. Renée Elio of our Department of Computing Science and Dr. Allen Renear of Brown University.

"It also includes a systems architect, a post-doctoral fellow and seven or eight graduate students at any one time. The students emerge with special education not only in literary research but also with the use of new technologies to do the work of texts. This makes them much sought after by employers in various fields."

She added that the research "could not be done without the team. This project is definitely not just about two or three people."

The Orlando Project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and by the Canada Foundation for Innovation. ■



The Orlando Project team: (back) graduate student Dave Gomboc, Dr. Renée Elio (Computing Science), (front) Drs. Isobel Grundy, Rebecca Cameron, graduate student Sharon Balazs and Dr. Patricia Clements.

Setting a television precedent with dramatic take on young lawyers

U of A Law grads produce *The Associates*, the most expensive Canadian series ever

By Jodeen Litwin

Greg Ball and Steve Blackman have an incredible story to tell. It's about how the two of them made Canadian television history with their first-ever TV series, *The Associates*—a one-hour drama that premieres this January on CTV. At \$1 million plus per episode, *The Associates* has the biggest budget of any Canadian television series to date.

Co-produced, written, and created by University of Alberta grads Ball and Blackman—neither of whom have any previous television credentials—*The Associates* is about five young lawyers struggling to get ahead in the Toronto office of an international law firm. The series took only about a year and a half to go from script to screen. "That's unheard of," says Ball. Still overwhelmed by it all, both recall with childlike excitement all the celebrities they met at the series' launch—including CTV's national icon, Lloyd Robertson, and the casts of *Ally McBeal*, *The Sopranos*, and *The West Wing*.

But take away the lights, the camera, the Toronto setting, and you have two guys who not all that long ago were living their own version of *The Associates*. One-time Edmonton lawyers working their way up, these two have put their law career on standby, but both acknowledge that it was law—both school and work—that got them where they are now.

Although both grew up in the greater Edmonton area—Blackman attended Ross Sheppard High School; Ball went to Archbishop Jordan High in Sherwood Park—and attended their third year of law school at the U of A together (Ball went to U of Ottawa for his first two years and was a visiting student

at the U of A for his third) it wasn't until they were articling that they buddied up. It was at a firm's Christmas party.

"We [articling students] were in this big circle and the question came up, 'What would we do if we weren't lawyers?'" says Blackman. Realizing that they both shared the same "what-if answer," Blackman and Ball decided to work together, and the screenwriting began. After working 10-hour-plus days as lawyers they would meet for late-night writing sessions.

"We spent a lot of time at Denny's," says Blackman, strongly emphasizing the "a lot" part. Ball calls them, "days in Denny's," and says the two were in their own nutty world, where they let their creativity, and endless cups of coffee and diet colas, flow.

They started with plays and feature-length films before deciding to try out television writing. It didn't take them long to decide what to write about. They recognized that what they were living was good drama, says Ball.

"We were suffering," Blackman pipes in, adding it's tough being a young professional today. "At graduation you are at the top of the class, and when you start working you instantly go to the bottom."

Drawing from their real-life experiences and using Canadian law—and real cases—they created what is now *The Associates*. Their big break came when they attended the Banff Television Festival in June 1999 to pitch their show. But it wasn't easy. Three days before the conference, they found out that this was a big, anybody-who-is-somebody event. And it was their

"We were suffering. . .
At graduation you are
at the top of the class,
and when you start
working you instantly
go to the bottom."

— Steve Blackman



Greg Ball and Steve Blackman

responsibility to arrange meetings with network officials, producers, etc.

"We just thought we would meet people while conferencing," says Ball with a who-knew tone in his voice. Breaking all the rules—hey, they were rookies—they sent what Blackman describes as a "crazy, off-the-cuff e-mail," to 110 people in the film and TV industry, including company presidents. It worked—they received more than 40 responses and managed to set up 22 meetings from Alliance-Atlantis, Lions Gate, and Paramount to CTV, Global and HBO.

When they arrived at Banff, Ball and Blackman jumped right in. At the festival's opening cocktail party, they starting pitching to everyone. "There were 2,000 delegates there, and we were waving to make it look like we had friends," says Ball, laughing. Enter some conflict—Blackman

and Ball realized they needed more time to hold all their meetings. Only registered for two days and not being able to afford a third, they got as creative as their writing. They set up their own so-called meeting table in the same hotel where the conference was being held, but in a lounge that was outside the conference space. It was here the meeting with CTV took place.

With six shows completed and a hot, prime-time position, *The Associates* is just the beginning for Ball and Blackman, who own their own production company. Keeping the momentum going, the two are already working on new shows and eyeing the U.S. market. They have even penned a spec script, "Flight from Eden" for David E. Kelley's *The Practice*. And, no matter what the future holds for Blackman and Ball, success should be inevitable—they have already set a precedent. ■

Killam Award winner relishes working with students

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

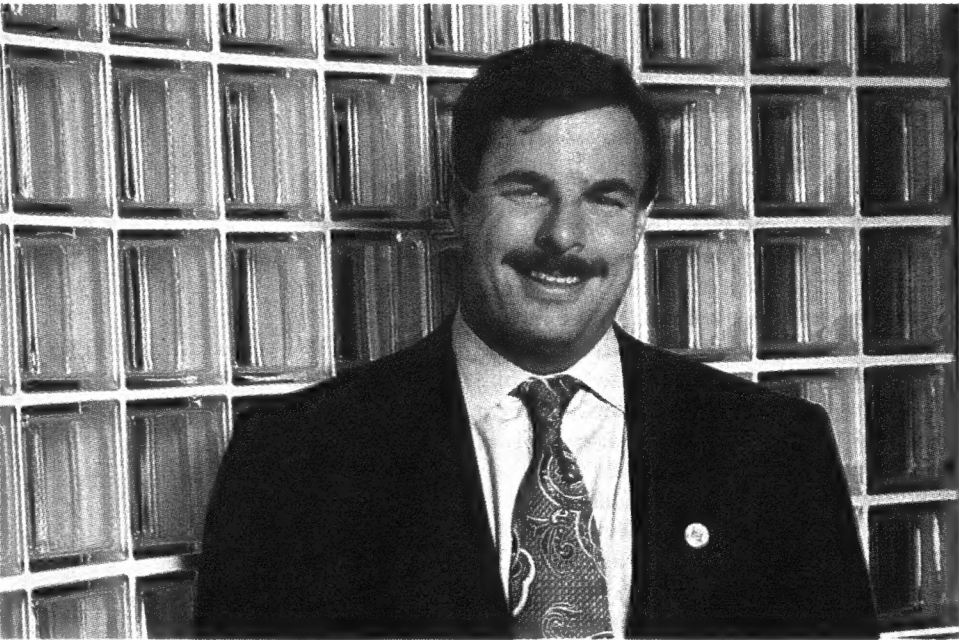
Dr. Murray R. Gray, one of eight University of Alberta professors nominated for the U of A's Killam Annual Professorship, shatters the image of the super-focused scientist by applying his expertise across a diverse area of study and interests, both academic and personal.

"My interests are in two main areas: the upgrading of bitumen and heavy oil and the application of reaction-engineering technology using biological organisms," says the professor of chemical and materials engineering, who's been with the University of Alberta since 1983.

Recently awarded a NSERC Industrial Research Chair, Gray's first area of research demands close partnership with industry players such as Syncrude Canada in the development and the effective processing of heavy oil feedstocks found in Alberta. In his biochemical engineering work, Gray is working on vitally important techniques used to clean up contaminated soils.

"I'm also working at combining the two interests and developing biological organisms that can be used to process bitumen," notes the recent recipient of the Syncrude Innovation Award. Gray is hard at work finding more potentially environmentally friendly low-temperature biological processes.

Gray especially relishes the interdisciplinary nature of the work and loves the fact that his research allows him to easily involve graduate students. "Excellent students are always attracted to frontier areas of study like this, and they bring a high



Dr. Murray R. Gray: Also recently awarded a NSERC Industrial Research Chair

level of energy and great ideas to the table," he says. The professor takes great pride in the fact his students have an exceptional record of excelling in scholarship and industry, something he's more proud of than any "paper or patent."

"Students are the mechanism by which we transfer technology and knowledge. They are the real product."

One such student, Patricia Stelmack, an environmental engineer for Barenco Environmental, an Ontario-based consulting company, calls Gray "the best supervisor I'd ever had from both an academic and professional point of view."

Stelmack says she's always admired his ability "to go full-bore ahead" with his teaching or research and "then switch gears immediately, leaping from one field of study to the next" or to concentrate on another aspect of his position or rejoin his family at the end of the day—regardless of how much he had on his plate.

"I wish I had that ability," she jokes. "Because of my studies under Dr. Gray, I understand the challenges in the biodegradation field—how fast you can do it, how much it will cost and also what is the best approach to take in any particular situation," she adds.

"Excellent students are
always attracted to
frontier areas of study
like this, and they bring a
high level of energy and
great ideas to the table."

— Gray

different disciplines across the campus," says the ever-energetic academic.

Not to give the impression that Gray is all work and no play. The busy professor likes to unwind with a wide spectrum of fiction, leaning towards Canadian authors from Robertson Davies to the likes of Guy Gavriel Kay.

Gray also volunteers in the community as much as he can, having served as the president of the National Engineering Association and with the Governor General's Canadian Study Conference.

The Killam Annual Professorships, established in July 1991, are awards based on scholarly activities such as teaching, research, publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students and courses taught, as well as service to the community beyond the university. ■

Environmental research hub sets up in HUB Mall

By Ryan Smith

The already diverse community of HUB Mall tenants became even more varied last month when the Environmental Research and Studies Centre (ERSC) opened its doors in the mall's southeast corner. Nothing at the centre is for sale, although a service is rendered.

"Our number one goal is to promote environmental literacy," said Beverly Levis, the centre's manager. "By moving to HUB Mall we hope to become more closely connected to students, and to help raise the profile of the centre and all that we do."

"We want to invite grad students to contact us about their environmental research, to increase our database and create an even stronger hub of all that's happening in this field at the U of A," Levis added. "The greater our database, the better we can help our constituents, the U of A students and faculty members as well as the general public, and we can let them know about the research and opportunities available here."

With an advisory committee composed of 17 professors from nine different faculties, the centre is the co-ordinating agent

for all environmental research conducted at the University of Alberta.

"So often at a large university it's hard to know about all the research happening in a wide field of research, but through this centre the U of A has gone a long way to demonstrating the tremendous depth and breadth of environmental research happening here," said physical education and recreation professor Dr. Guy Swinnerton, whose original area of study was geography and rural land use planning.

Through January and February, the centre—which used to be housed in the Biological Sciences Building—is organizing a seminar series based on management of the eco-system of the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. The series features Herzberg Award finalist Dr. David Schindler who will discuss freshwater problems Canada faces in the coming century. U of A political science professor Dr. Ian Urquhart will also present a talk on the controversial Cheviot Mine Project. For more information check the Environmental Research and Studies Centre Web site at <http://www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/>.

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The Health Technology Assessment Unit of the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) is seeking a Research Associate. The position focuses on collecting and analyzing data and information to evaluate health technologies such as procedures, drugs, devices, or equipment. This includes critical appraisal of health care literature, researching databases and preparing externally and non-externally reviewed reports.

The successful candidate will have postgraduate education (Master's prepared) in a health or science related field or equivalent professional experience that includes health services research training and an understanding of critical appraisal tools. A minimum of two years of experience in systematic reviews and three years of relevant experience in the health field are required.


Since 1980, The AHFMR has awarded more than \$600 million to researchers at the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge and their affiliated institutions. Heritage scientists recruited in Alberta, from other parts of Canada and from around the world are earning international acclaim for their research advances in such fields as heart function, genetics, cancer, diabetes, and population health. Heritage researchers attract \$2-3 in outside funding for every AHFMR dollar received.

AHFMR was highly commended for its record of achievements and the excellence of its activities throughout the province in a Report prepared by members of an International Board of Review in December, 1998.


Replies will be treated in strictest confidence. Only applicants chosen for an interview will be contacted. Please submit resume by **January 31, 2001** to:

**Alberta Heritage Foundation
for Medical Research**
3125 Manulife Place, 10180 - 101 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S4.
Fax: (780) 429-3509

For further information on the Health Technology Assessment Unit please visit our website at www.ahfmr.ab.ca.



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SUPPORT STAFF ORIENTATION

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DATE: Thursday, January 25, 2001

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LOCATION: Banquet Room, Lister Hall

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT:

*Marilyn Schwindt at 4350
or email marilyn.schwindt@ualberta.ca*

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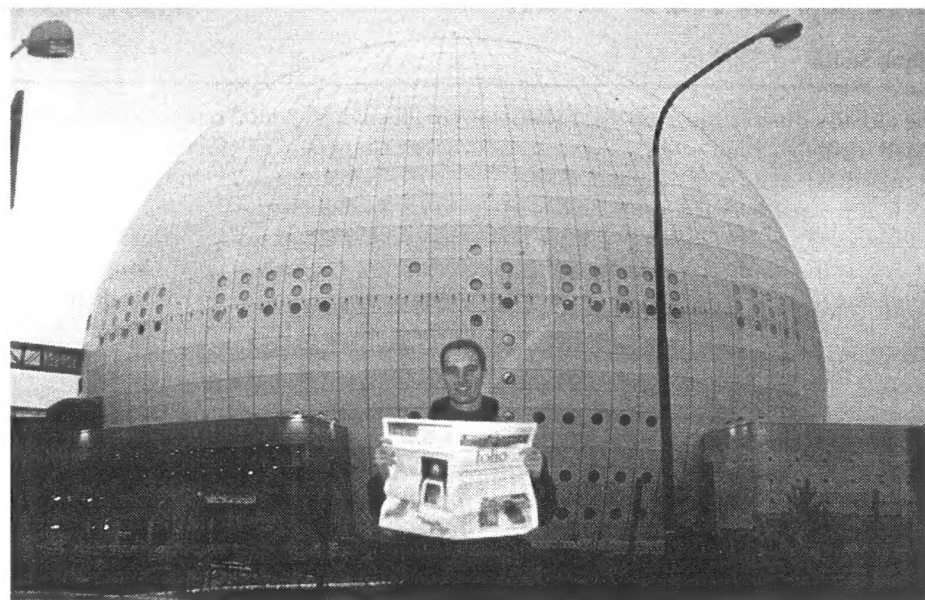
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Folio on vacation...



Ryan Smith is in?

Any idea where Ryan Smith, editor of ExpressNews, took his Folio when he went on vacation recently? Fill out this form and forward to 405 Athabasca Hall by Jan. 23. One name will be drawn from all the correct entries for a prize giveaway.

My guess for the correct city/location is: _____

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talks

Submit talks and events to Cora Doucette by 9 a.m. one week prior to publication. Fax 492-2997 or e-mail at cora.doucette@ualberta.ca.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE AND DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

January 31, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Dr. Linda Wykes, McGill University, "Nutrition Matters: Insight into Amino Acid Metabolism Using Stable Isotope." Classroom D (2F1.04) Walter Mackenzie Centre.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

January 12, 12:00 noon

Samantha Song, "The Political Economy of Conservation Biology." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

January 12, 4:00 pm

Laura Frost, "Mutational analysis of F-pilin reveals functional domains." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

January 19, 2:30 pm

Hamid Habibi, "Development of a technology to enhance growth rate in cultured fish." Room CMP B2, Computing Sciences Building.

January 19, 4:00 pm

Andrew McMillan, "Assembly and activity of RNA processing machines." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

January 24, 12:00 noon

Joe Casey, "Anion Exchangers from Erythrocytes to Cardiomyocytes." Room M-141, Biological Sciences Building.

January 26, 4:00 pm

Victor Tron, "Effects of UV on the skin. The role of p53 dependent proteins." Room M-149, Biological Sciences Building.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

January 17, 5:30 pm

Videoconference Seminar. Dr. Michael S. Kallos, Faculty of Engineering, University of Calgary, "The Large-Scale Expansion of Mammalian Neural Stem Cells in Suspension Bioreactors." Room 231, Civil Engineering Building.

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON LITERACY

January 19, 3:00 pm

Connie Varnhagen, Psychology Department, "Phoneme Perception and Spelling: What Children Hear is What They Spell." Room 651a Education South.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES CENTRE

January 18, 4:30 pm

Dr. Ian Urquhart, "Livelihood and the Cheviot Mine Debate: Some Observations." Alumni Room, Students' Union Building.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND CLASSICS

January 16, 4:00 pm

Dr. Sean Murphy, University of Toronto, "The Letter of the Law: Abelard, Moses, and the Problem of Being a Eunuch." Room 2-58 Tory Building.

January 18, 3:30 pm

Ms. Amanda Spencer, PhD candidate, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, "The Fate of Captives in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages." Room 2-58 Tory Building.

January 25, 3:30 pm

Dr. Elka Klein, New York University, "Conflict, Competition, and Cooperation: Relations Between Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe." Room 2-58 Tory Building.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY

January 24, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Dr. Andrew Cave, "Participatory Action Research in Primary Care Medicine." Room 610, University Extension Centre, 8303 - 112 Street.

JOHN DOSSETOR HEALTH ETHICS CENTRE

January 19, 12:00 noon

Al-Noor Nenshi Nathoo, "MRIs, SUVs, and ORT (Oral Rehydration Therapy): Bioethics and Global Poverty." Room 207, Heritage Medical Research Centre.

January 20, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Dr. Gregg Bloche, Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Centre, "Medical Apartheid and its Moral Aftermath." Classroom D, 2F1.04 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

January 22, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Dr. Gregg Bloche, Professor of Law, "International Human Rights and the Globalization of Bioethics." Location: TBA

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARIES

January 15, 10:00 am to 11:30 am

January 23, 12:30 to 2:00 pm

January 26, 12:00 to 1:30 pm

Hands-on session "Navigating the Health Sciences Library." For all University of Alberta students, staff, and faculty who are new users of the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library. Location: WMC, 2F1.02 computer lab.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES, EPIDEMIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

January 18, 12:00 noon to 12:50 pm

Dr. Peter Bundred, "Why Canada Needs Primary Care." Classroom F, 2J4.02 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

January 25, 12:00 noon to 12:50 pm

Dr. Colin Soskolne, "Are We Winning the War Against Cancer?" Classroom F, 2J4.02 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES, OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

January 17, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Dr. Nicola Cherry, "The Health of Gulf War Veterans." Classroom D, 2F1.04 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

January 24, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Dr. Steve Hruddy and Cindy Jardine (PhD student), "Principles for Environment Risk Management." Classroom D, 2F1.04 Walter Mackenzie Centre.

President appoints strategic adviser

By Phoebe Dey

There is a new face in University Hall with the naming of a strategic policy adviser to President Rod Fraser. Lorna Higdon-Norrie started in the newly created position Jan. 8.

"Lorna brings a broad range of experience to the office, including extensive knowledge of media, government, public policy, government relations, strategic policy development, international trade and community relations," said Fraser in a campus memo.

Higdon-Norrie holds a Bachelor of Applied Arts (Radio and Television Arts) from Ryerson Polytechnical University and an MBA from York University. She has held senior positions with Telus and the Government of Canada.

"Most of my career has been in the private sector, and I'm really excited to be here and excited about the chance to learn," said Higdon-Norrie. "The university is a tremendously complex environment with a very specific culture and way of operating that is different from any-

thing else I've been in. It will be a real learning environment."

Although her role will become more defined along the way, one of Higdon-Norrie's aims is to be a liaison between the Office of the President and the campus community, she said.

She will also advise the president on policy initiatives, research partnerships, government relations, international initiatives, fund development, key donor/alumni relationships and general administrative or executive issues. Recruiting outstanding students, raising the profile of the U of A and ensuring research programs meet or exceed national and international standards of excellence are included in Fraser's vision.

"At a minimum, I'll be focusing on the president's key strategic initiatives and try to ensure they are achieved," said Higdon-Norrie. "We need to go deeper into both understanding and communicating the president's strategic initiatives and working across campus to provide that link between faculty members and staff with the president...And I will be on campus, providing that link while the president is away." ■

events

EXHIBITION

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY

January 6 to February 15, 2001

Annual show of students work. Gallery hours are from 8:30 am to 8:00 pm Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Friday, and 9:00 am to 12:00 noon Saturday. Second floor, University Extension Centre, 8303 - 112 Street. Information: 492-3034.

EXHIBITION

MCMULLEN GALLERY, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA HOSPITAL

December 2, 2000 to January 28, 2001

Collected Vision. This exhibition celebrates the Alberta Craft Council's 20th anniversary. It also presents a year-by-year sample of fine craft purchased from Council members, by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 am to 8 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 1 pm to 8 pm. 8440 - 112 Street, Edmonton. Phone: 407-7152.

OBSERVATORY

The Campus Astronomical Observatory is open to the campus community and the general public every Thursday evening (except exam and holiday periods) beginning at 8 pm. Entrance to the Physics Building is via the northeast door or via the V-wing. For information call 492-5286.

CAREER AND PLACEMENT SERVICES

EDUCATION CAREER FAIR

January 17, from 10 am to 4 pm

Dinwoodie Lounge (2-000 Students' Union Building). Meet with representatives from over 50 school boards! For more information, contact Career and Placement Services, 492-4291 or www.ualberta.ca/caps

CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FAMILY ENTERPRISE

EVENT AND RECEPTION

January 18, 5:30 pm

Dr. Michael Hitt, "Managing for the New Millennium: International Partnerships and Alliances." Telus Centre. Presented by the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise. Reception follows. Event is free but registration requested. RSVP to 492-5876. For more information visit What's New at www.bus.ualberta.ca/cefe

INFORMATION EVENING

CHILD STUDY CENTRE

February 7, 2001, 7:00 pm.

Openings available in Grades 1, 2, 3 for September 2001. Information evening takes place in 129 Education South. For more information, contact Marilyn Hawirko, 492-2811; email mhawirko@ualberta.ca

LAW SHOW 2001

FACULTY OF LAW, LAW SHOW 2001

Friday, January 19 and Saturday, January 20, 2001

Tickets are now on sale for the 6th annual Law Show and accompanying silent auction. Proceeds

from the show and silent auction will support Edmonton's Kid's Kottage Foundation. Tickets are only \$15.00 and are available by calling 431-0044. The show begins at 7:30 pm on both evenings. On Saturday night the silent auction begins at 6:00 pm. Come out and support Kid's Kottage and the Faculty of Law.

MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS SERVICES

UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

Sunday, January 21, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Come celebrate the Feast of Jordan at the Ukrainian Folklore Archives. International Flavours: A Taste of Ukraine is sponsored by the University of Alberta Museums in partnership with the Friends of the Chair of the Ukrainian Culture and the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums. Event takes place in the Ukrainian Folklore Archives, located in the Old Arts Building. All are welcome! Admission by donation. For more information, please contact Lisa Barty, Education Coordinator, Museums and Collections Services, 492-5834.

MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

January 12, 8:00 pm

Music at Convocation Hall, Jacques Despres, piano

January 15, 12:10 pm

Music at Noon, Convocation Hall, Student Recital Series featuring students from the Department of Music.

January 23, 8:00 pm

New Music Concert. A program of recent works by student composers at the University of Alberta. Free admission

January 26, 8:00 pm

Faculty and Friends, Judith Richardson, soprano, Janet Scott Hoyt, piano.

January 28, 8:00 pm

The University Symphony Orchestra, Malcolm Forsyth, Conductor

January 29, 12:00 pm

Noon-Hour Organ Recital. Free admission.

Unless otherwise indicated: Admission \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building. To confirm concert information, please call 492-0601.

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Thursday, January 25, from 12:00 to 3:30 pm

To welcome new support staff to the University of Alberta, Individual and Organizational Effectiveness has scheduled the next Support Staff Orientation which includes tour with lunch to follow. For more information and to register please contact Marilyn Schwindt, 492-4350, marilyn.schwindt@ualberta.ca

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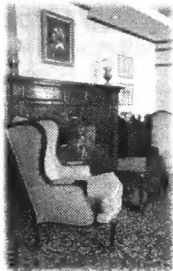
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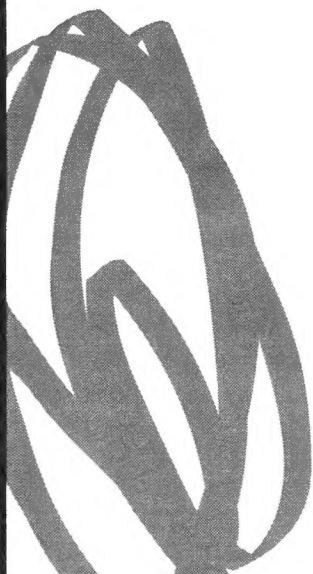


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John Gray, 1943 - 2000

Dr. John Gray, a professor in the Department of Physics, passed away Nov. 24 a few days after suffering a massive heart attack.

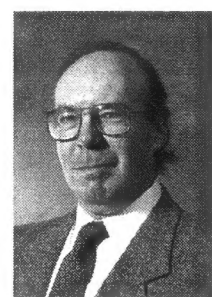
Gray grew up in Heckmondwike, near Bradford, in northern England. After completing an honours B.Sc. at Queen Mary College in London, he and his wife Elaine came to Canada in 1966, and John entered a PhD program in the chemistry department at McMaster University where he obtained his doctorate in 1970. Following postdoctoral work at Yale and a "visiting" position in Edmonton, he was appointed assistant professor in the physics department in 1972 and promoted to full professor in 1987.

Gray's research was in the area of isotope ratio mass spectrometry, a technique used for a wide variety of naturally occurring materials. Studies of isotopic composition of ice from glacier cores, for example, can help determine climatic conditions over many thousands of years. During his research career, Gray published widely

and produced several landmark papers in the broad field of climate studies.

However, Gray was also a gifted and dedicated teacher. He regularly taught large first-year physics classes and derived great personal satisfaction from seeing students succeed. Over the years his teaching reputation grew, and in 1991 he was honoured by the Faculty of Science when he received the Excellence in Teaching award. His straightforward but caring teaching style endeared him to his students year after year.

A memorial service to celebrate Gray's life was held on Nov. 29, and many university colleagues, students and friends were present. He will be sadly missed by all, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Elaine and their four daughters and their partners. ■



appointments

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS COORDINATOR

Effective Jan. 17, Garth Edwards will assume the newly created position of Canada Research Chairs Coordinator. Garth will 'reside' in the Research Grants Office (RGO), reporting to Colleen Mead, director, RGO, but will have strong linkages with a number of offices on campus in support of his new role, notably, the Offices of the Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Research), faculties, as well as with Financial Services and other support offices. It is expected that Garth will be able to provide direct assistance and support to nominees for CRC positions, as well as to deans and associate deans who are putting forward nomina-

tions. As well, this position will be a valuable coordinating resource 'on the ground' in liaising, on a day-to-day basis, with the CRC Secretariat on various matters respecting the Chairs program on this campus.

Garth holds a PhD in geology, maintains an active research program, and has held academic and administrative appointments in various Canadian universities. We welcome him to the University of Alberta. ■



positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.

**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND HOME ECONOMICS**
DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL CARE

Applications are invited for the position of director of animal care in the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics. This is an administrative professional officer position with a salary range of \$53,194 - \$84,218.

The director of animal care is responsible for ensuring that high standards of animal care and use within the faculty are practiced in compliance with the spirit and intent of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) guidelines, the Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada codes of practice for domestic farm animals and captive wildlife, and other relevant legislation. The director will ensure that policies and procedures established by the Faculty Animal Policy and Welfare Committee (FAPWC) are satisfactorily implemented in seven animal units, supervise the administrative activities associated with the activities of the FAPWC and provide professional advice to the FAPWC on all aspects of animal care (ethics, welfare, biosecurity, facility development, health and safety, use of drugs, etc.). The director will support the university's intention to meet and surpass CCAC requirements for the use of animals in research, teaching and testing. The director, working with the university veterinarian and other animal services directors, will provide leadership in the development of appropriate training programs to meet the pending requirements set out by CCAC. will be a key player in the

university's crisis management plan for issues related to the use of animals, will actively participate in the university's annual ethics forum, the Hyndman Awards program. The director will also promote animal ethics within the institution, and through membership on the University APWC, will contribute to the development of institutional policies governing animal care and use.

The director of animal services will have a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine or animal science, or a closely allied field. Experience with the management of domestic farm animals, particularly in a research environment will be an asset. The successful candidate will have strong team-building skills and will create a participatory system of management, meeting regularly with the research services coordinator and managers of the animal units. An individual with training and experience in managing people working in animal research under CCAC or equivalent guidelines is sought. Excellent communication and inter-personal skills, as well as the ability to teach effectively at both the undergraduate and graduate level in animal care and use training programs, is essential. An ability to contribute to teaching in applied ethology at the undergraduate level would be an advantage.

Applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be sent to Dr. Ian Morrison, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2P5. Final selection will commence March 1, 2001.

For complete University of Alberta job listings visit:
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EFF – UNIVERSITY TEACHING RESEARCH FUND APPLICATION DEADLINE

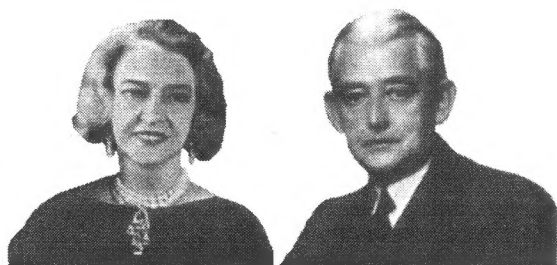
The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF – University Teaching Research Fund is February 15, 2001.

This fund was established to encourage and support research on teaching-learning. The primary purpose of this fund is to enhance the level and quality of teaching research and curricula development in the University. Funding

priorities include research projects which have the potential of contributing to the increased effectiveness of university teaching, learning, and curricula development.

Application forms are available from the Office of the Associate Vice-President (Academic), 3-12 University Hall, phone 492-1503. ■

2001-2002 Killam Annual Professorships



Applications for the 2001-2002 Killam Annual Professorships are now available. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2001-2002 are eligible to apply. Deans, department chairs and other senior university administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate deans and associate department chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$3,500 prize and a commemorative scroll. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or

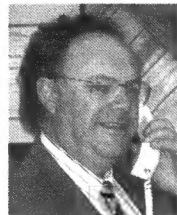
all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be substantial contributions to the community beyond the University of Alberta, as evidenced by community involvement directly linked to the applicant's university responsibilities and activities.

Awards are tenable for 12 months commencing July 1, 2001. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 3-7 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23, 2001. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the autumn of 2001.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at: http://www.ualberta.ca/VPRESEARCH/killam/klm_prof2.htm

Please contact Annette Kujda, administrative assistant, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 8342 or email: annette.kujda@ualberta.ca if you have any questions.

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**Noujaim Institute for
Pharmaceutical Oncology Research
Faculty of Pharmacy
and Pharmaceutical Sciences**



Noujaim Institute Scientific Associates Noujaim Institute for Pharmaceutical Oncology Research

The Noujaim Institute was established in 1994 in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta. Its mandate is to effect world-class research on a core theme of "Targeted Anticancer Drug Development and Delivery". Applications are being accepted from senior scientists with appointments in Alberta post-secondary institutions to become Scientific Associates of the Noujaim Institute for Pharmaceutical Oncology Research. Tenure of this position will be recognized through a grant of up to \$15,000 *per annum* in partial support of a post-doctoral fellow in the Associate's research team, or up to \$8,000 *per annum* in partial support of a graduate student. Applications should include a one-page summary of a research project consistent with the research platform of the Noujaim Institute, as well as a current CV of the applicant and of the trainee to be supported by the Institute. As a condition of the award, all related publications and communications of the Scientific Associate and the trainee will acknowledge funding from the Institute.

Deadline for receipt of applications is February 15, 2001. Applications will be reviewed in confidence by the Institute's Scientific Advisory Committee. Results of the competition will be communicated directly to the applicant prior to March 1, 2001.

Submit applications to:

Gerald G. Miller, Ph.D.
Research Associate Professor and Acting Director
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Meditating with Mandira



View from Gokyo River at 5,360 metres.

Story and photos by Leanne Clare

In 1997, tired of sending other people to far off corners of the globe, I left my job at University of Alberta International to volunteer in Nepal. While working for the Women's Studies Department at Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, one of the instructors, Mandira, asked if I had visited a meditation centre. When I answered "No," she looked shocked.

"You came to learn about Nepal. How can you understand a country if you don't experience its soul? Religion is more important to Nepal than the mountains." Like most of my adventures during my four-and-a-half-month stay, I learned more about myself than Nepal.

A few days later my alarm went off at 5:30 a.m. and my head hurt from crying. I had received a telephone call the night before from my ex-boyfriend telling me I'd been replaced. This bit of news sent me into a tailspin, reminding me that life was proceeding along without me back in Edmonton. Suddenly consumed with homesickness, I had an overwhelming desire to jump on the next plane home. I wanted to marinate in self-pity rather than go meditate with Mandira. There was no way to reach her to cancel, so I rolled off my floor mat and went to catch the bus.

In the meditation hall, over 100 people sat silently cross-legged on bright orange and blue cushions. The front of

the room was dominated by a large, effeminate-looking Buddha crowned with a splash of green and red flashing lights—his aura.

Under his loving gaze two monks in orange and red robes sat in ornate chairs facing the room reciting mantras from scrolls amidst clashing cymbals and powerful incense.

Once we found two empty cushions, Mandira leaned over and whispered I should focus on my "respiratory process." I had done some basic meditation in a yoga class in Edmonton and knew the theoretical goal was to focus on my breathing. Instead, far more interesting topics dominated my thoughts: my ex-boyfriend, my family and why the hell I was half way around the world "breathing" rather than getting on with my life back home.

I began to stare at the other people meditating. I looked out the window and allowed myself to become hypnotised by Buddha's flashing aura. Finally, a bell rang and morning meditation ended. I turned to Mandira and said meditation is a difficult concept for many westerners to understand, and I asked her what she thought about while she was doing it.

She replied, "Focus on the body." I must have looked confused, because in a hushed voice she explained we wrongfully assume things like breathing are instinctual. Instead, our mind tells our lungs to breathe. Most people do not have

enough self-awareness to ensure the body is subordinate to the mind, so meditation is a way for people to become more aware of the control their mind has over their body. During meditation you focus on what is happening to your body and where you are at that particular moment. Once you can do this, your body and mind are stronger.

Then, as if looking directly into my mind's eye Mandira said, "For instance Leanne, if you spend all of your time in Nepal missing your family, it is wasted energy. It does you no good to think of them all the time because you are here and they are in Canada. All that happens is you do not appreciate where you are and cannot really enjoy yourself. If your mind is not in Nepal right here and now, then you may as well go home."

Mandira told me exactly what I needed to hear. I realized my obsession with the fact things were changing back home without me wasn't going to stop them from happening. Mandira gave me an incredible gift that day: the tools to appreciate my own experiences.

From that point on I took responsibility for my choice to leave home and spent a year of incredible privilege travelling all over the world. I tried not to waste a moment of my experience and savoured every breath of air, every wonder I wit-



Bodnath, the world's largest stupa.

nessed and every chance encounter. During moments of homesickness, I asked myself if I would rather be in Edmonton and the answer was repeatedly, "No." Now that I am home, I strive to live every day in the here and now. When the day comes that my mind starts to spend more time somewhere else, I will try to ensure that my body is able to follow.

Leanne Clare is the International Relations Officer for Asia at University of Alberta International. She can also be heard on CJSR's weekly travel program, Radio Outpost, every Wednesday at 5 p.m.



Laundry day in Lukla.

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